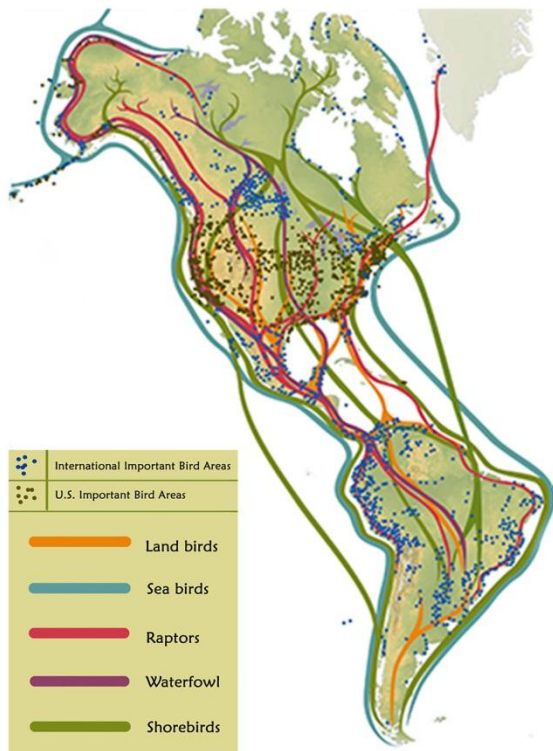


The Mississippi Flyway

HawkWatch celebrates one of the most amazing fall spectacles, the migration of hundreds of thousands of raptors and other birds along the Mississippi River to their wintering areas stretching from the southern U.S to South America. Beginning in mid-September, large numbers of broad-winged hawks, sharp-shinned hawks, kestrels, and ospreys begin migrating down the river, often travelling together in groups called “kettles”. By the beginning of October, red-tailed hawks, red-shouldered hawks, Cooper’s hawks, peregrine falcons, and merlins have joined the migration. High bluffs along the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge are ideal locations for witnessing this autumn spectacle.



Map courtesy of National Audubon

Birds of Prey You Might See at HawkWatch



Accipiters

Sharp-shinned Cooper's Hawk

Falcons

American Kestrel Merlin Peregrine



Buteos

Broad-winged Red-shouldered Red-tailed



Osprey



Northern Harrier

Marsh Hawk



Turkey Vulture

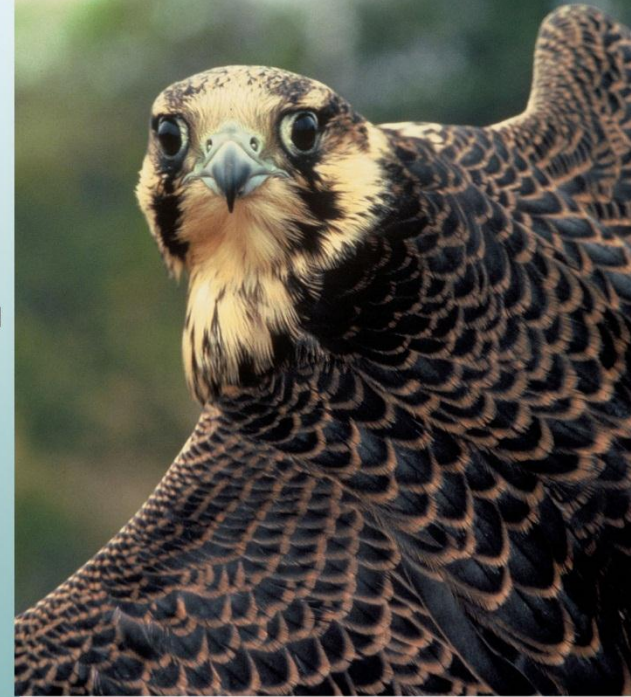


Bald Eagle

HawkWatch

October 11, 2014

8:00 a.m.



Driftless Area Wetlands Centre

Upper Iowa Audubon Society

Upper Mississippi River
National Wildlife & Fish Refuge



HawkWatch

This fall, HawkWatch moves from Effigy Mounds National Monument to the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge and the Driftless Area Wetlands Centre in Marquette, IA. HawkWatch is designed to appeal to everyone, including families, amateur birders, and masters of hawk identification.

This event occurs at three area locations. Participants are responsible for transportation to and from each site. HawkWatch is free and will be held rain or shine. For a complete schedule go to the websites listed below or to the Centre the day of the event.

Driftless Area Wetlands Centre
509 Hwy 18
Marquette, IA
(563) 873-3537
www.driftlessareawetlandcentre.com

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge
401 Business Hwy 18N
McGregor, IA
(563) 873-3423
www.fws.gov/refuge/upper_mississippi_river/



Three HawkWatch Locations

Driftless Area Wetlands Centre

509 Hwy 18, Marquette, Iowa 0.5 mile west of the Marquette-Joliet Bridge on Hwy 18

Come to the Centre to get maps and schedules of all events.

There will be a series of presentations about raptors, three with live birds.

There will be limited opportunity to have a photograph taken with a live golden eagle, on a first come first served basis.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn how wildlife biologists capture wild birds and other wildlife using rocket nets.

Hands-on educational activities for children will be available throughout the day.

Expert birders will help identify raptors flying overhead. Binoculars and spotting scopes will be provided.

Food and beverages for sale.



First Lutheran Church Parking Lot

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge

31743 175th St, McGregor, IA

Off Clayton County 56, south of Pikes Peak State Park

Participants will be bused to a tent with a blind to hopefully observe raptors being live trapped, banded and released. They will learn why the Refuge is important to migrating raptors and other birds.

Buses will pick people up at 60 minute intervals. Capacity is limited.



Sturgeon Slough Parking Lot

Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge

Hwy 18 between Marquette, IA and Prairie du Chien, WI on the Marquette-Joliet Bridge

Captured waterfowl will be banded. Biologists will share information gathered from past banding efforts and explain the techniques used to capture waterfowl. The importance of the Refuge to migrating birds will be discussed.

It is a short hike along the trail to the banding site.